

Chairperson:
Mrs Victoria Mouat
Booth
Baltasound
Unst
ZE2 9DT

Clerk: Miss H Sinclair 1 Brakefield Crescent Haroldswick Unst ZE2 9EJ

Minutes of the meeting held at Baltasound Junior High School on Tuesday 10th January 2017, at 6.00pm in Room 4.

Present: Mrs. V. Mouat (Chair) Mrs. C. Peterson

Mr. M. Cox Miss. L. Hunter
Mrs. A. Fraser Miss. Y. Carnell
Mrs. F. Brown

Mrs. E. Brown Mr. G. Rodger

In Attendance: Mr. P. Thomson

Miss. H. Sinclair

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cheryl & Derek Jamieson, Karen Gray, Kathryn Lomax, Catriona Waddington and Julie Thomson.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting (Thursday 1st September)

Minutes were read and approved.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes

All on agenda

4. Asymmetric Week

From April/May 2018 the school will be moving to an asymmetric week. This will mean a longer school day from Monday through to Thursdays and a shorter day on Fridays.

This model is already in place in Whalsay and Aith.

This would allow for a better use of teacher time (33 fifty minute periods per week) and would also allow for teacher training on Friday afternoons and allow time for Duke of Edinburgh/John Muir.

The bus will leave school earlier every Friday afternoon (both primary and secondary), which gives every student a longer weekend.

Implications? Child care – possible shift changes/change of hours of work for parents.

A change of break times for Mondays to Thursdays will need to be looked at. Extended lunchtimes would allow for lunchtime activities, but there would be no staff available to take them. An extra afternoon break could be an option.

After looking at the options it looks like an earlier start rather than a later end to the school day would be the best option to fit with transport. Paul will need to inform Hayfield House what the proposed day will look like and only then can solid discussions take place with the transporters.

5. Primary Classes 2017 / 2018

In the Primary Department the number of students determines the number of teachers.

For the year 2017/18 numbers are as follows;

P1 - 6, P2 - 3, P3 - 10, P4 - 6, P5 - 5, P6 - 10, P7 - 6 = Total 46 pupils.

This would mean going down to 2 primary teachers next session, which would mean the P4 class group may need to be split.

Paul said this is not a cost cutting exercise, but it is within the Scottish Guidelines of teachers per number of pupils.

How will this affect present staffing? Many factors in this instance will have to be taken into consideration – staff affected have been informed.

New enrolments to the school before April 2017 are included into the class numbers for 2017/18 therefore any new enrolments before then would change the situation.

6. Fundraising Ideas for the New Term

Victoria said that the Farmers Market dates had all gone.

Yvette and Julie were hoping to hold a 'slave auction' in March, probably in one of the local halls as a social event.

Up Helly Aa coffee morning – Feb.

Eurovision – May?

Raffle and ice-cream sales at a chip night?

7. Ideas for Information Events for Parents

Asymmetric week information evening?

Internet Safety – for Parent Council members who would then be able to deliver to the wider community/parent forum.

Emergency Services day?

Clip: You tube: Kayleigh's love story – show to older pupils?

8. Community Skills Day

Any members of community with specific skills – would they be willing to come in to school? Careers Day – held every 2 years?

Could hold a Careers and Hobbies Day.

9. Next Meeting

Monday 20th February at 6pm.

10. AOCB

None